

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1496

By Bailey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the members and coaches of the Upperman High School Lady Bees basketball team upon winning the TSSAA Division I, Class AAA state championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should salute those student athletes who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as true champions of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary group of young athletes is the Upperman High School Lady Bees basketball team, whose members have all proven themselves to be the fiercest of competitors and truly worthy of admiration by winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Division I, Class AAA state championship; and

WHEREAS, capturing the program's third state title in six years, the Upperman Lady Bees defeated Jackson South Side by a score of 48-43 in the championship game held in Murfreesboro at Middle Tennessee State University on March 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Upperman displayed resolute determination and tenacity during their march through the state tournament, thrashing Elizabethton by a score of 59-42 and withstanding a late rally by Creek Wood to claim a thrilling 45-44 victory and advance to the championship game; and

WHEREAS, in addition to taking the state crown, the Lady Bees also claimed district and region championships to finish their tremendous season with an overall record of 32-5, having averaged 54 points, 15 assists, 27 rebounds, and 10 steals per game while shooting 57 percent from the field and 30 percent from beyond the three-point line; and

WHEREAS, the Upperman Lady Bees were led by tournament MVP Abigail Johnson, who was joined on the All-Tournament team by teammates Brooklyn Crouch, Emma Conradi, and Jayla Cobb; and

WHEREAS, the members of this state champion squad are Cyarra Nash, Korra Bass, Brooklyn Crouch, Bella Mullins, Kailyn Stevens, Addison McElhaney, Gracie Hamilton, Addyson Roberts, Aly Jones, Emma Conradi, Jayla Cobb, Makenzie Harville, Meiah Moss, Darcy Hickey, Auburn Johnson, Avamae Allen, Abigail Johnson, and Ella Harrell; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Bees' superb victory may not have been possible without the stellar leadership of their head coach, Dana McWilliams, and assistant coaches, Amanda Asberry, Emily Hughes, and Tyler McWilliams; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Upperman High School girls' basketball team epitomize all that is good in today's student athletes, as they have achieved a premier level of success in competition while exhibiting the highest degree of character in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young women not only made possible a championship season but also surely bode well for their future success; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the Upperman Lady Bees for their outstanding performance in the TSSAA Division I, Class AAA state championship title game; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the members and coaches of the Upperman High School Lady Bees upon winning the TSSAA Division I, Class AAA state basketball championship and extend to them our best wishes for every continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.